PE Docket No.: 0010-1108-0 CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF:

Yoko ASAKURA, et al.

: EXAMINER: RAMIREZ, D.M.

SERIAL NO.: 09/577.005

: CPA FILED: JUNE 14, 2002

FILED: MAY 25, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING AMINO ACID PRODUCING BACTERIAL STRAINS, AND METHOD OF PREPARING AMINO ACIDS BY FERMENTATION WITH THE CONSTRUCTED AMINO ACID PRODUCING

BACTERIAL STRAINS

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO COMPLY

RECEIVED

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

NOV 2 6 2003

SIR:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Responsive to the Official Action of October 21, 2003, in the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of this response.

Amendments to the Claims begins on page 13 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this response.